



The

BRITISH LUTHERAN

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INFORMATION, ARTICLES, ANNOUNCEMENTS

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EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF ENGLAND

The Venerable Bede

"I PRAY THEE, GOOD JESUS, that to him whom Thou hast graciously given to drink in with delight the words of Thy knowledge Thou wouldest mercifully grant to come one day unto Thee, the fountain of all wisdom, and to appear forever before Thy face".

This is the prayer which closes the list of books written by Bede, "The Venerable", Bible scholar and "Father of English History". He died dictating his Anglo-Saxon translation of the Gospel of John.

Bede was born in Northumbria not far from Jarrow in the year 673. From the monastery at Wearmouth, across the Wear from Sunderland, where he was educated from the age of seven, he was transferred to Jarrow where he was ordained. Here, a simple monk in a remote English cloister, he studied the Scriptures, taught and wrote, becoming famous for his learning even in his own lifetime. His works - exegesis, grammar, physics, astronomy, history, biography - were copied over and over again and were found in every library of Europe. Bede was truly "The Teacher of the Middle Ages".

The most important and best known to-day of Bede's writings is his ECCLESIASTICAL HISTORY OF THE ENGLISH NATION finished in 731. A primary source for early English history, it tells the political and ecclesiastical history of England from the Roman conquest to the date of its completion. Bede's method was careful and scientific listing every authority and separating fact from hearsay. Yet so vivid and full of interest are his descriptions that King Alfred had the book translated into Anglo-Saxon and we can enjoy it in "paper-back" form to-day.

Another of Bede's works, which divides the history of the world into six ages, is important because it helped to establish the practise of dating events from the Birth of Christ.

A stone in the Galilee Chapel of Durham Cathedral bears the words: "In this tomb are the bones of Bede."

FIRST GENERAL SYNOD IN INDIA

January 8-9, 1958 were historic days for the India Evangelical Lutheran Church. Instead of the usual conference of missionaries to discuss the problems of their respective areas, this year Indian delegates elected by local synods came together at Concordia Seminary, Nagercoil, for the First General Synod of the India Lutheran Church. Missionaries, of whom there are some 40 from the U.S.A., Canada, England, Germany, Austria and Latvia now in India, were present but only in an advisory capacity unless officially elected as delegates.

How the two pioneers who started the mission 60 years ago would have rejoiced to see this day! Beginning in a little village called Krishnagiri, they learned the local language Tamil and preached in the streets. You can still see the little house which they rented in Londonpet along the main road from Bangalore to Madras. To-day the Indian Lutheran Church is spread over the three states of Madras, Mysore and Kerala and has 296 congregations and 116 preaching stations organized into three church districts: Ambur, Nagercoil and Trivandrum. New work is developing in the Bombay area and in Ceylon. The Gospel is preached in five different languages: Tamil, Malayalam, Kanarese, Urdu and Singhalese.

The First General Synod at Nagercoil, January 8-9, was a great step forward towards self-government but its corollary, financial independence, seems still distant. Half of the communicant membership cannot read. The majority are so desperately poor - the working man's wage averages 9/- per month - that they do not have enough to keep themselves healthy. Even old-established congregations make little headway towards self-support.

These are problems that must, more and more, be handled by the Indian congregations themselves. At the First General Synod it was evident that there are Indian Lutheran leaders who are ready to accept such responsibility.

Nora Mitchell

CARDIFF The first public ELCE service in Cardiff on Quinquagesima Sunday, the 16th of February, occasions the changed heading "From the Taff to the Tyne" ... the Taff is the river upon which Cardiff and its Cathedral of Llandaff ("the Church on the Taff") are situated. Pastor Brammeier and family moving into new home at 17, Rookwood Close, Llandaff, Cardiff, 15-minute walk from the proposed Lutheran church site at Fairwater Green.

PETTS WOOD Warm words of appreciation spoken by Mr. L. Nelson on behalf of adults, by Chris Lamb for the youth, and by little Bruce Nelson for the children brought to a close the enjoyable evening on Thursday, February 13th, in which 60 people of the Petts Wood Lutheran Church bade God-speed to Mr. and Mrs. Victor Graf and their daughter Vicki who, after eleven years in London, are returning to America ... "Messenger of Peace", first in a series of five winter films, well attended ... a pair of boots worn out in one evening by a thief who tried to break into a house through the chimney and infra-red photos of altered cheques were among the interesting exhibits shown by Inspector Vennard, City of London Police, in his lecture to the Youth Club ... crisp, clear winter night Bar-B-Q with log-fire, singing, guitar and grilled sausages.

TOTTENHAM Mr. A. M. Kahl re-elected President of Holy Trinity at Annual Meeting in January ... Table Tennis Club defeats Prince of Wales' Hospital ... Installation of officers and of Sunday School teachers in service, Sunday, February 9th ... "each one bring one" slogan of 1958 mid-week Lenten services which will be illustrated by film strips of the Passion story ... Stephen Brighton attracts attention as "The Little Englishman" at school in Little Rock, U.S.A. where Mrs. Brighton and children have safely arrived.

. T O T H E T Y N E

GRINDON Even what the BBC called "the worst snow storm in ten years", did not stop 69 worshippers from attending the second service at Grindon Lutheran Church on Sunday, Feb. 9th. Returning from the service, Pastor Bosch, after much fruitless slipping and sliding on Durham Road hill, had to abandon his Consul and walk home ... arrival of Pastor Desmond Jose eagerly awaited to assist Pastor Bosch at Grindon.

SUNDERLAND St. Timothys celebrated the birth of its first daughter, Grindon Lutheran Church, on Sunday, Feb. 2nd, by a Thankoffering for ELCE missions... Installation of new officers on January 19th ... six young ladies who returned from First LLGB Convention at Boreham Wood, sleepy but happy, gave a report of the meeting to the congregation during the after-service tea ... Ladies' Guild discussing topics from "The Christian Woman" by Ruth Nelson, sometimes conducting the topics themselves ... \$93 received from Lutherans in America toward purchase of a duplicator ... Pastor Bosch conducts service for Lutherans in Glasgow on Thursday, Feb. 13th.

RUISLIP Every-Member-Visit during February carried out by Stewardship Committee members ... Voters' Assembly designate one Sunday each month for special offerings ... Lutheran Hour Sunday, Feb. 23rd ... surprise farewell party by Youth Club for RAF-bound Robin Richards.

KENTISH TOWN Ladies Guild honour new pastor's wife, Mrs. Norman Heintz, at social on Feb. 5th at the home of Mrs. J. C. George ... the thirty ladies present surprised Mrs. Heintz with many useful gifts ... first winter film draws more neighbourhood people than ever before ... Youth Club Committee considers membership in LLGB.

BOREHAM WOOD Temporary hall removed and grounds beginning to take shape ... church attendance since Jan. 1st: 29, 40, 52, 54, 57, 60.

EUROPE

United Kingdom
France
Belgium
Denmark
Germany
Finland

ASIA

China
Japan
Korea
India
Formosa
Hong Kong
Philippines
Ceylon

NORTH AMERICA

United States
Canada
Mexico
Guatemala
El Salvador
Panama
Cuba

SOUTH AMERICA

Argentina
Brazil
Paraguay
Venezuela
Uruguay
Chile

AFRICA

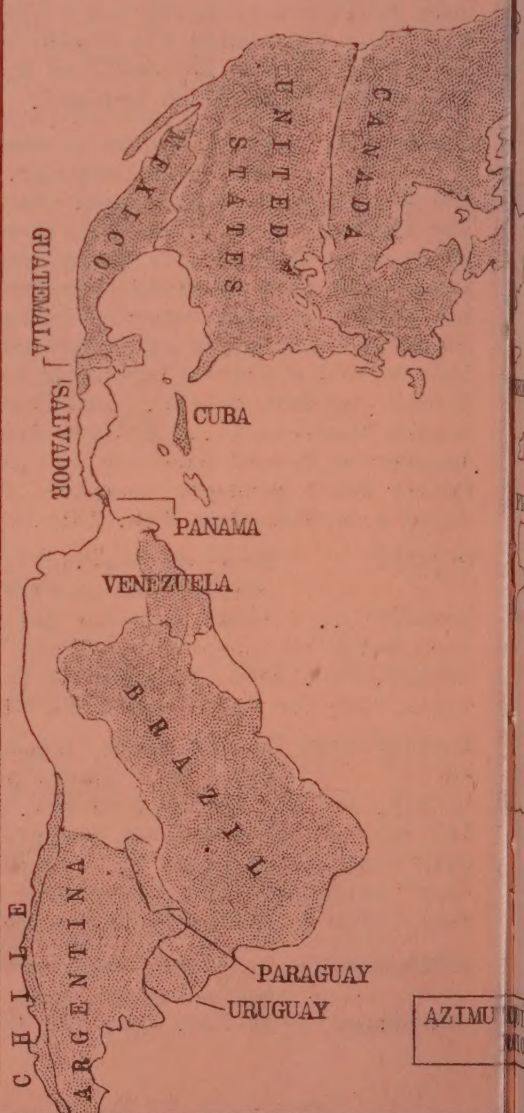
Nigeria

AUSTRALASIA

(not shown)
Australia
New Zealand
New Guinea
Hawaii

A GROWING FELD

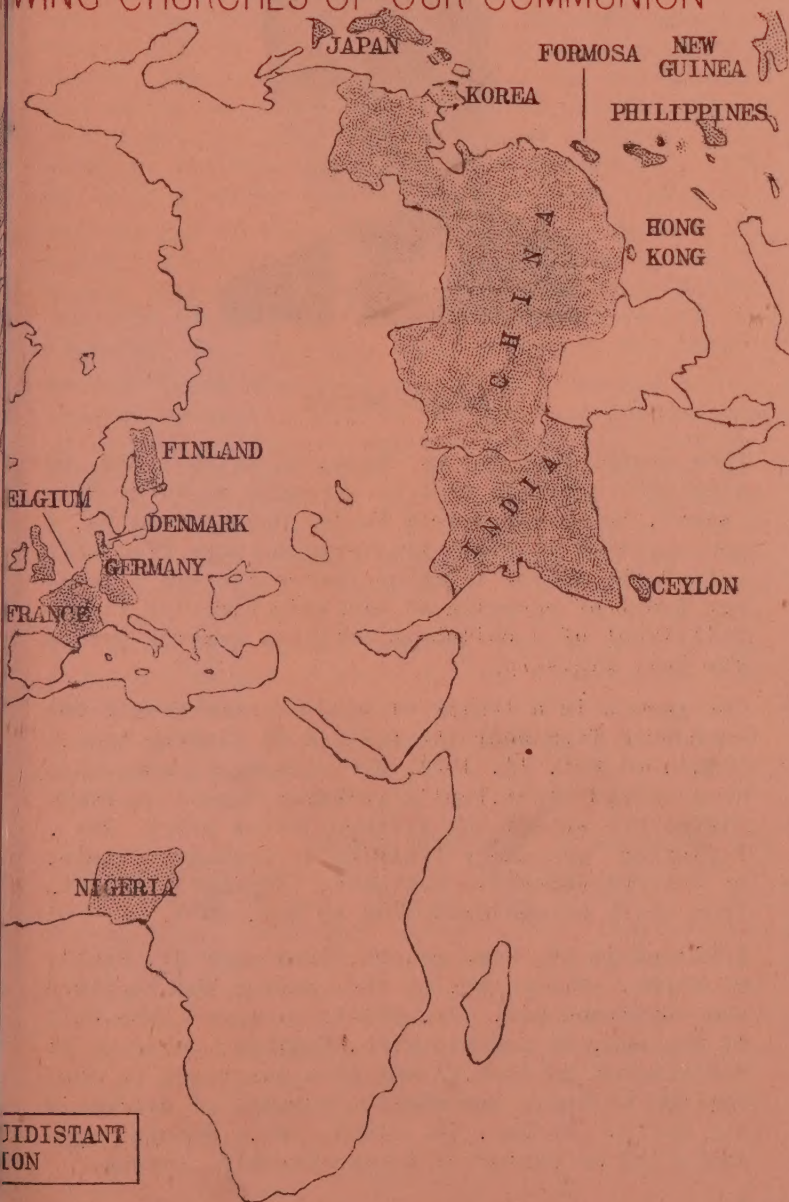
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AZIMUTH

SHIP IN A SHRINKING WORLD

WINNING CHURCHES OF OUR COMMUNION





NORMAN HEINTZ

"One month, flat on my back, in which I had no alternative but to look up brought me to my decision", Luther-Tyndale's Pastor Heintz recalls. A car accident in which two vertebrae were fractured helped the 6-foot 14-stone pastor through a teenage fancy of becoming an athletic director to the fulfilment of a childhood ambition to serve God in the Holy Ministry.

The second in a family of ten, Norman Heintz was born on a farm near the village of Kinbrae, Minn., U.S.A. on Oct. 11, 1931. His elementary education he received at St. Paul's Lutheran School at Fulda, riding the school bus fifteen miles every day. Following secondary training at Bethany College, he entered Concordia Seminary, Springfield, Ill., from which he was graduated in May, 1957.

Ordained in his home church, 700-member St. Paul's of Fulda, Minnesota, by the pastor who baptized and confirmed him, Mr. Heintz accepted the Call to England. He and his wife, Cynthia, arrived at Southampton on Sept. 11 and then journeyed to Sunderland to begin his mission survey of cities in the North. On Dec. 15, 1957, Mr. Heintz was installed as pastor of Luther-Tyndale, London.

103 ATTEND FIRST SERVICE AT GRINDON

"Standing room only" said the ushers to late-comers to the first ELCE service in the newly acquired Church Hall at Grindon, Sunderland, on Septuagesima Sunday, Feb. 2nd. More than 70 of the 103 present had had no contact with the Lutheran Church before. 743 people had attended the seven nightly film showings which preceded the opening service. 136 children attended the first Sunday School session.

The opening service was conducted by the Rev. F. Bosch, Sunderland pastor, while Pastor E. Geo. Pearce preached the sermon based on Isaiah 55. The choir of St. Timothys under the direction of the organist, Mrs. W. Stolz sang: "Praise to the Lord".

For the Frank Armstrong family, Feb. 2nd had a very special meaning. Removed to the new housing area of Grindon soon after their confirmation into St. Timothys Lutheran Church in downtown Hendon, Mr. and Mrs. Armstrong and their son, Henry, canvassed their new district and, with the help of their pastor, began a branch Sunday School in their own home in June 1956. Attendance rose until there were more than 80 children occupying every room in the house on a Sunday morning, sitting even on the kitchen sink and cooker - to the wonderment of local newspapers and overseas visitors.

Pastor Desmond Jose of Cornwall will move to Sunderland to assist Pastor Bosch and to complete the mission survey of northern cities for the ELCE.

MODEST BEGINNING IN WELSH CAPITAL

Fairwater Institute, its club interior transformed by a 14-foot dossal curtain and portable altar furnishings, was the scene of the first public service of the ELCE in Cardiff on February 18 ... A congregation of twenty heard Pastor Brammeier answer the question: "What is a Christian?" in his sermon based on Eph. 2, 1-10. The liturgist was the Rev. E. Geo. Pearce. 15,000 handbills were distributed to advertise the "Martin Luther" film which preceded the service.

VICTOR GRAF, ELCE TREASURER. RETURNS TO U.S.A.

After eleven years of distinguished service, five of them as founding member of the Executive Council and first ELCE Treasurer, Mr. Victor V. Graf with his family will return to Tulsa, Oklahoma to take up a new position in his firm, Seismograph Service Corporation. The family will sail on the Queen Elizabeth on Feb. 22nd.



At a farewell gathering at the home of Mr. E.C. Lutz, the members of the Executive Council and their wives presented Mr. and Mrs. Graf with an inscribed ELCE seal and with a Victorian silver crucifix. Five days later, on February 13th, some sixty people of the Petts Wood Lutheran Mission bade farewell to the Grafs and their London-born daughter, Vicki, with the presentation of a silver entrée dish.

After earning his B.Sc. degree, Mr. Graf began his career as headmaster of a secondary school in the town of his birth, Lahoma, Okla. Since March 1935 he has been employed by Seismograph Service Corp., an oil exploratory firm which uses man-made earth tremors to measure the depth and structure of rock strata down to 20,000 feet. Before coming to Britain in 1947, he supervised the operations of his firm in Java and Trinidad. One of two men sent to this country in January, 1947, to establish a sterling area affiliate, Mr. Graf helped to guide the English company to its present 500-man world-wide activity.

All those who know him experienced his keen sense of responsibility, his unassuming but unwearying enthusiasm for the work of Christ. The Church in England will lose, and that in America will gain, a masterbuilder in the Kingdom of God.

Over the Top!!

A loan of £200 which reached Mr. James Taylor, CEF Financial Secretary, after he had closed his books but which was dated January 28th brought the total loans and gifts to the Church Extension Fund during its first year of operation to £12,012 - which exceeds the 1957 goal by £12. Below are the final figures:

	<u>LOANS</u>	<u>DONATIONS</u>
KENTISH TOWN	£7329	£ 604
TOTTENHAM	1242	4
RUISLIP	422	11
SUNDERLAND	33	1
BROMLEY	256	15
BOREHAM WOOD	14	2
PETTS WOOD	100	14
OTHERS	738	1227
Totals	£10134	£ 1878
Grand Total		£12012

Thanks be to God Who opens our hearts for Christ!

NAGEL ELECTED MEMBER OF CAMBRIDGE SOCIETY

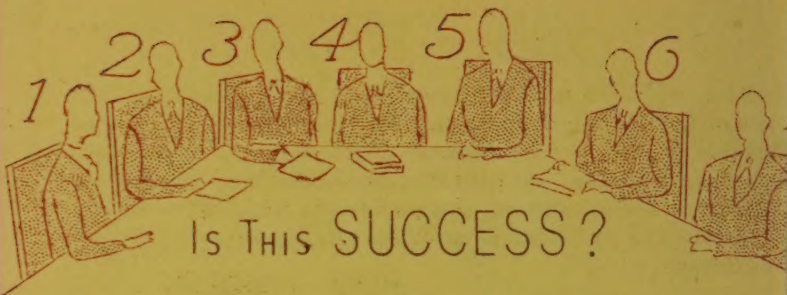
The Rev. Norman Nagel has been made a member of the Theological Society of the University of Cambridge. Regius Professor of Divinity J. Burnaby is chairman of this society which is made up of the Faculty of Divinity and senior theological members of the University.

SEND YOUR USED CHRISTMAS CARDS TO INDIA

A recent letter from Miss Nora Mitchell, Luther-Tyndale member now in our Indian mission, advises that used Christmas Cards can be turned into profit for mission work. Please send your cards, posted in small bundles, direct to The Lutheran Mission, Nagercoil, Travancore, South India.

Postage stamps, English 3d and over and foreign, would also be appreciated by our Indian brethren.

1958 SYNOD === APRIL 11-12 === HOLY TRINITY LONDON



In 1923 seven of the world's most successful financiers met at the Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago.

Together, these men controlled more wealth than there was in the U.S. Treasury and for years newspapers had printed their success stories, urging youth to be inspired by their example. Thirty-five years later, let's see what happened to them.

- [1.] The president of a great steel company - died penniless.
- [2.] A great wheat speculator - died bankrupt.
- [3.] President of the New York Stock Exchange - released from Sing Sing Penitentiary.
- [4.] A member of the U.S. President's Cabinet - pardoned from prison so he could die at home.
- [5.] A great financier in Wall Street - committed suicide.
- [6.] President of the Bank of International Settlements - committed suicide.
- [7.] Head of the world's greatest monopoly - committed suicide.

All of these men had learned how to make money, but not one of them had learned how to live. HAVE YOU?

From the tract "Silent Evangelist"

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